

**Categorical Exclusion Documentation Format for Actions Other Than Hazardous
Fuels and Fire Rehabilitation Actions**

Cornelis Kreemer Tectonic Motion Research Equipment
DOI-BLM-AZ-P040-2011-001-CX

A. Background

BLM Office: *Sonoran Desert National Monument (SDNM)*

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: **AZA-35469**

Proposed Action Title/Type: **Land Use Authorization - Permit**

Location of Proposed Action: **T. 6 S., R. 3 W., Section 5, SWNE.**

Description of Proposed Action: Cornelis W. Kreemer, in conjunction with the University of Arizona, is proposing to install a small GPS monument that will be part of a new 33 station network across the United States - Southwest to measure very precisely the horizontal motion of the earth's crust. The measurements will help to determine the levels of active tectonic deformation, the associated seismic hazard, and the implication of the past and future geologic evolution of the area. The proposed GPS monument is an approximately 12-inch long and 1-inch wide stainless steel pin. Half of the monument will be placed, with epoxy, in a hole that will be drilled within the bedrock. The GPS antenna will be about a foot wide and will be placed on the pin. The data will be collected in a box that will be covered with a small solar panel. There will also be one or two car batteries, which will be sealed and placed in protective cases. The GPS monument will not be permanent and will be removed at the end of the permit's term.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan (LUP) Name: Lower Gila South Resource Management Plan/EIS

Date Approved/Amended: **6/0/1988**

☐ The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

☒ The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions):

The Lower Gila Resource Area processes a variety of land actions in the Lower Gila South RMP/EIS area – rights-of-way, communication sites, easements, permits, and unauthorized occupancy. All lands cases would continue to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

C: Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1, or 516 DM 11.5:

E.(19). Issuance of short-term (3 years or less) rights-of-way or land use authorizations for such uses as storage sites, apiary sites, and construction sites where the proposal includes rehabilitation to restore the land to its natural or original condition.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 or 516 DM 11.5 apply.

I considered: Not Applicable

D: Signature

Authorizing Official: /s/ Richard B. Hanson
1/14/11

Date:

RICHARD B. HANSON
SDNM Manager

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact:

Jo Ann Goodlow, Realty Specialist, Phoenix District Office – Lower Sonoran Field Office, 21605 North 7th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85027, 623-580-5500.

Note: A separate decision document must be prepared for the action covered by the CX. See Attachment 2.

BLM Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances¹
Attachment 1

The action has been reviewed to determine if any of the extraordinary circumstances (43 CFR 46.215) apply. The project would:		
1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: <i>The placement of the GPS monument should not have any impacts on public health or safety. The device, which is relatively small in size, will be secured into bedrock and should not have any impacts on public health or safety.</i>
2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness or wilderness study areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds (Executive Order 13186); and other ecologically significant or critical areas?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: <i>The proposed action will not have any significant impacts to such natural resources as those listed above.</i>
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)]?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: <i>Placement of the GPS monument will not have any highly controversial effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.</i>
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: <i>The GPS monument will not have any highly uncertain and potentially significant environment effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.</i>
5. Establish a precedent for future action, or represent a decision in principle about future actions, with potentially significant environmental effects?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: <i>The placement of the GPS monument would not establish a precedent for future action, or represent a decision in principle about future actions, with potentially significant environmental effects.</i>
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		
Yes	No	Rationale: <i>The placement of the GPS monument is within the Sonoran Desert National Monument. It would not have a direct relationship to</i>

¹ If an action has any of these impacts, you must conduct NEPA analysis.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects. The action is a temporary placement and will have no long term or significant impacts.</i>
7. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the Bureau or office?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: <i>There would be no anticipated impacts to any significant cultural resources. Should any cultural resources be found, the standard stipulation will come into effect.</i>
8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: <i>There would not be any significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, nor would there be significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.</i>
9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: <i>The proposed action does not violate any Federal law, or State, local or tribal law or any requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.</i>
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: <i>The proposed GPS monument does not have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations.</i>
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners, or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: <i>Placement of the GPS monument would not require for consultation with tribes regarding Indian sacred sites to take place.</i>
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area, or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale: <i>The placement of the GPS monument will not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area, or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species.</i>

Approval and Decision

Attachment 2

Compliance and assignment of responsibility: Jo Ann Goodlow

Monitoring and assignment of responsibility: Jo Ann Goodlow

Review: *We have determined that the proposal is in accordance with the categorical exclusion criteria and that it would not involve any significant environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review.*

Prepared by: /s/ Jo Ann Goodlow **Date:** 1 / 1 0 / 2 0 1 1

Jo Ann Goodlow
Project Lead

Reviewed by: /s/ Leah Baker **Date:** 1 / 1 2 / 2 0 1 1

Leah Baker
Planning & Environmental Coordinator

Reviewed by: /s/ Richard B. Hanson **Date:** 1 / 1 4 / 2 0 1 1

Richard B. Hanson
Manager

Project Description:

Cornelis W. Kreemer, in conjunction with the University of Arizona, is proposing to install a small GPS monument that will be part of a new 33 station network across the United States - Southwest to measure very precisely the horizontal motion of the earth's crust. The measurements will help to determine the levels of active tectonic deformation, the associated seismic hazard, and the implication of the past and future geologic evolution of the area. The proposed GPS monument is an approximately 12-inch long and 1-inch wide stainless steel pin. Half of the monument will be placed, with epoxy, in a hole that will be drilled within the bedrock. The GPS antenna will be about a foot wide and will be placed on the pin. The data will be collected in a box that will be covered with a small solar panel. There will also be one or two car batteries, which will be sealed and placed in protective cases. The GPS monument will not be permanent and will be removed at the end of the permit's term.

Decision: Based on a review of the project described above and field office staff recommendations, I have determined that the project is in conformance with the land use plan and is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis. It is my decision to approve the action as proposed, with the following stipulations (if applicable).

Approved By: /s/ Richard B. Hanson **Date:**
 1/14/11

Richard B. Hanson